55

Found in Fort Fisher when Captured Dec 25 by Mr Jeffrey [illegible] NORTH CAROLINA PORTFOLIO 10

The Iredell Express.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY,

E. B. DRAKE. BY W. P. DRAKE.

EUGENE B. DRAKE & SON,

Editors and Proprietors.

THE IREDELL EXPRESS.

Volume VIII. STATESVILLE, N. C., FEBRUARY 9, 1865. Number 6.

TERMS OF THE PAPER,

$20 a Year, in Advance.

☞ No Subscription received under 6 months.

☞ If not paid in advance $30.00. ☜

Job Work executed promptly, with neatness and dispatch at this Office.

WESTERN N. C. R. ROAD.

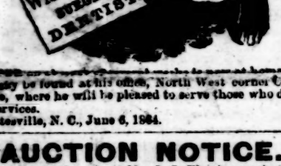
Time Table.

To go into operation Wednesday, Nov. 10, 1864.

MAIL TRAIN WEST.			MAIL TRAIN EAST.		
STATIONS.	Arrive.	Leave.	STATIONS.	Arrive.	Leave.
Salisbury,		9.00	Head of Road,		8.40
Third Creek,	10.05	10.10	Icard's,	9.25	9.30
Statesville,	11.15	11.20	Hickory Tavern,	10.20	10.25
Catawba Station,	12.30	12.50	Newton,	11.20	11.25
Newton,	1.50	1.55	Catawba Station,	12.25	12.45
Hickory Tavern,	2.45	2.50	Statesville,	1.45	2.15
Icard's,	3.40	3.45	Third Creek,	3.15	3.20
Head of Road,	4.35		Salisbury,	4.25	

J. W. WILSON,
Chief Engineer & Superintendent.

47:tf



A lady to be found at his office, ready to wait at home and wherever she will be pleased to serve those who desire his services.

Statesville, N. C., June 6, 1864.

AUCTION NOTICE.

ALL persons for whom Mr. J. S. Fleming and myself have acted as auctioneers during the year 1864, and who have not paid the commission will come forward and settle immediately with Mr. J. S. Fleming.

3:tf WM. T. WATTS.

$25 Reward.

LOST, a Certificate in favor of Alex'r Baily, No. 1265, for $100, dated 25th March, 1864, issued at Statesville, N. C. Also certificate in favor of J. W. Cody, No. 1266, for $100, same date; also, a note on J. W. Cody, for $370, a note on Thos. Owens, for $10, the dates not recollected. All persons are forewarned trading for the above.

ALEX'R BAILY,
Jan. 9.—2:6t. Bell's Bridge, Iredell Co., N. C.

Provisions for the Army.

BY recent order from the Commissary General, purchasing Agents for the Subsistence Department are to pay prices fixed by local appraisers, and as the prices recently arranged by them for this County, is equal to market rates, we appeal to producers to bring forward their supplies at once; after 1st February, 1865, prices fixed by the State Commissioners will only be given.

J. S. MILLER,
Pur. Agent Sub. Dep't. at Statesville, N. C.
H. C. ECCLES,
Jan 24, '65:1tf at Cool Springs, N. C.

TO THE PEOPLE

Of Iredell, Alexander, Catawba, Caldwell and Burke Counties.

THE Farmers of the foregoing counties are hereby informed, that in consequence of the pressing necessity existing in our Armies for long and short Forage—Corn, Oats, Hay and Fodder, I have instructed my Agents to exert all their energies in securing at once the entire surplus of these supplies; and, while I sincerely trust that the farmers of these counties will spare no pains and themselves the unpleasant necessity of impressment, by selling to me or them at the Schedule prices fixed by the Commissioners of Appraisement for North Carolina; yet, if parties refuse to sell at these prices, thereby making impressment necessary, it is a duty, which, in all such cases my Agents will proceed to execute promptly without discrimination.

The following persons are my authorized Agents, viz:—
W. U. Murkland, Agent for Iredell county.
Ruben Watts, " Alexander county.
W. S. Clark, " Caldwell county.
J. W. McKitrick, " Burke county.

Also, Mr. S. R. Murkland, Bonded Agent for the whole District. Very Respectfully,

J. M. ROGERS,
Captain and A. Q. M.
Statesville, N. C, Nov. 6, 1864. 46:3m

CARD NOTICE.

THERE is now another lot of Cotton and Wool Cards (ready for use) for distribution to Soldiers families, at $10 per pair. Agents will please call for them.

H. A. DOWD,
Dec. 30, 1864.—1:3w. A. Q. M. N. C.

General Orders, No. 2.

WANTED,

100,000 Fur Skins.

THE undersigned having commenced the manufacturing of HATS at Statesville, N. C., would like to buy the above amount of FURS, for which we will pay the highest prices, or exchange for Hats.

WANTED, ALSO:

5,000 lbs. WOOL, on the same terms.

Feb. 29, 1864.—13:tf WITTKOWSKY & CO.

COTTON YARN

In Exchange for Furs.

WE will exchange YARN for FURS, at our Hat Manufactory in Statesville, N. C.

WITTKOWSKY & CO.

March 28, 1864.—17:tf

Provisions Wanted.

J. S. MILLER, Statesville, and H. C. Eccles, Cool Springs, are my authorized Agents for the purchase of subsistence stores for the Confederate Army, in the County of Iredell.

A. MYERS,
41:tf Capt. & A. C. S.

CARD.

DR. JAMES F. LONG, late Surgeon in the C. S. A., having been compelled, in consequence of ill health, to resign his position in the Army, respectfully tenders his professional services to the citizens of Statesville and vicinity. He may be found at the house formerly occupied by Mr. Jones, nearly opposite the residence of Dr. Kelly.

October 19, 1864.—43:tf

A Card.

FROM and after this date I will practice Medicine at old prices and receive farm produce at old rates: If you pay the money I shall charge according to price of produce.

J. F. LONG.

December, 1864.—23tf

BRING IT IN.

I WISH TO PURCHASE FOR THE ARMY all kinds of Government Stores, Bacon, Beef, Flour, Potatoes, &c., for which I will pay the market price.

J. S. MILLER,
April 6th, 1864.—18:tf Pur. Agt. Sub. Dept.

COTTON YARN FOR WOOL,

To Clothe N. C. Troops.

THE subscriber continues the exchange, for the Q. M. Department at Raleigh, at the rate of 1 bunch of Yarn for 3 lbs. washed and 4 lbs. unwashed Wool.

E. B. STIMSON, Ag't.
Statesville, 1864.—28:tf

Wanted—Provisions.

I DESIRE TO PURCHASE COMMISSARY STORES for the Army, as Bacon, Flour, Beef, Tallow, Vinegar and Hard Soap, for which the market prices will be paid.

H. C. ECCLES, Ag't.,
July 28.—34:tf Cool Spring, Iredell Co., N. C.

Boxes for Soldiers.

ALL Boxes for Soldiers or Prisoners of War from North Carolina, delivered to the following named persons will be promptly forwarded free of charge:—Dr D F Sammay, Asheville; Dr W A Collett, Morganton; Dr J A Allison, Statesville; Dr J L Neagle, Greensboro'; Mr A Hagan, Charlotte; Mr Edward Rege, Salem; Capt J N McDowell, Raleigh; Joseph A Worth, Fayetteville; E Murray & Co, Wilmington; Mr F L Bond, Fayetteville; Mr J A J Askew, Cobrain; Mr F L Roberts, Murfreesboro'.

The boxes should be well hooped, properly marked, and delivered in time for my Special Messenger, who leaves Raleigh on the first day of every month.

EDWARD WARREN,
47:tf Surgeon General N. C.

A German poet, walking "silent and thoughtful by the solemn shore of the vast ocean we must sail so soon," speaks thus of

"The Ship of Death."

By the shore of Time, now lying
On the inky flood beneath,
Patiently, thou soul undying!
Waits for thee the Ship of Death!

He who on that vessel starteth,
Sailing from the sons of men,
To the friends from whom he parteth
Never more returns again!

From her mast no flag is flying,
To denote from whence she came;
She is known unto the dying—
Azrael* is her captain's name.

Not a word was ever spoken
On that dark, unfathomed sea;
Silence there is so unbroken,
She herself seems not to be!

Silent thus, in darkness lonely,
Doth the soul put forth alone;
While the wings of Angels only
Waft her to a land unknown.

*Azrael, the Death Angel.

"Marion's" Rejoinder to "Davidson" on the Secession of 1789, and the Right of Secession.

[Continued.]

The several States in their joint compact with each other agreed, for obvious reasons and for the sake of consistency, to restrict themselves each from exercising its right to have its own separate army and navy, from the right to impose its own separate system of export and import duties, from making separate treaties and commercial regulations with foreign powers, &c., and, in short, from holding separate diplomatic intercourse with those powers. Hence the States thus aggregated and cut off, by their own act, politically and diplomatically, in their individual capacity, from those powers, became, *as to those powers*, one State, one Nation; and their general government is in that aspect a National Government; and the admission, or rather the statement of the fact (for it is no concession) does not in the slightest degree detract from the fact that the States are confederated and not merged and consolidated. They are a Nation of Nations, not a Nation of people. In their relations towards each other they are Sovereigns under a compact with each other, which compact is realized and brought into action in the shape of the Government of the United States and its operations.

Simply because in its operations it acts in certain specified and limited instances, directly on the citizens of the several States, *by permission of those States*, and thereby possesses some National features, it by no means thence results that it is a National Government in the sense that the old Federal party, and their few disciples at the South of the present day, contended for, and now contend for. Had the supposed one American people, in the exercise of an original, underived sovereignty, created the general government, and devolved on it the exercise of that sovereignty, and for convenience had parcelled their territory into areas called States, and had delegated to the several people or to the governments of those different States the right to exercise certain specified and limited powers, they could not dispute that the General Government would have actually been a "firm National Government" to every and all intents and purposes, and Sovereign by its own right, that is, the right of its own one people. But as the shoe happened to be on the other foot, the case is very materially altered.

I have thus, Mr. Editor, endeavored to answer Davidson's question, "Will Marion or any body else undertake to answer the above reasoning of Mr. Madison", and now leave the reader to judge with what effect.

This lapse of Mr. Madison as to consistency, is, Mr. Editor, unfortunately paralleled by several similar instances among men of great and commanding intellect and high position. I will cite one instance. I quote from Garland's Life of John Randolph, p. p. 74 and 75, Appleton & Co's. edition, 1851.—On the question of re-chartering the Bank of the United States, whose charter would expire in 1811, Henry Clay, a Senator from Kentucky, argued the question at great length and in opposition to re-chartering.—He said, "This vagrant power to erect a bank, after having wandered through the whole constitution, in quest of some congenial spot whereon to fasten, has been at length located by the gentleman from Georgia, on that provision which authorises Congress to lay and collect taxes. In 1791 the power is referred to one part of the instrument—in 1811 to another. Sometimes it is allowed to be deducible from the power to [illegible] force. Hard pressed from [illegible] and again shews itself underneath the grant to coin money." After proceeding in this strain through several sentences, he exclaims, "What is the nature of this Government? It is *emphatically Federal, vested* with an aggregate of *specified* powers for general purposes, conceded by *existing Sovereignties*, who have themselves *retained*, what is not so conceded. It is said that there are cases in which it must act on implied powers. This is not controverted; but the implication must be necessary, and *obviously* flow from the enumerated powers with which it is allied. The power to charter companies is not specified in the grant, and I contend is of a nature *not transferable by implication*. It is one of the *most exalted attributes of Sovereignty*."

Induced by such forcible reasoning, the party then known as the "republican party" refused to re-charter the bank, or to incorporate another similar institution. "They stood by the Constitution." But what do we behold in 1816? This man, the great Henry Clay, voting to charter the Bank of the United States! Of course he attempted to justify himself, and the chief ground of his defence, ("oh, most lame and impotent conclusion!") was "a change in the circumstances" of the Government at the two periods. That is, the aid of a bank to Government was not deemed necessary in 1811, but it was thought to be necessary in 1816. Upon this change of mere circumstances he weaves a web of sophistical argumentation, in his vain attempt to cover up his inconsistency: but even the vast and versatile powers of his great genius, in the exercise of all its ingenuity, cannot obscure the transparency of his argument. If the chartering of a bank was unconstitutional in 1811, it was unconstitutional in 1816 and at all times, and under *all* circumstances. If it was constitutional in 1816, it was so in 1811; and, to be consistent, his opposition then should have been planted on the *inexpediency* and not the unconstitutionality of the measure.

I could cite other prominent instances of like inconsistency among eminent Americans besides this of Clay's; but I refrain. Alas for the weakness of human nature!

I will next turn my attention to the second division of Davidson's reply, in which he discusses the right of secession from the Federal Union.

Currency Bill.

A Bill to provide more effectually for the reduction and redemption of the currency.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That hereafter, and until the full redemption of the Confederate States treasury notes now outstanding, and of such as are authorized by existing laws to be issued, the said notes, except those issued prior to the 17th day of February, 1864, shall be free from all taxation whatever which may attach to said notes so as to affect their circulation at par or diminish the promise contained on their face, but the holders of said notes may be subject to taxation on account thereof to the same extent and in the same manner as he may be taxed for on account of other money.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby directed and required, whenever, in his judgment, the exigencies of the government will permit, to cancel from time to time such an amount of Treasury notes as may be received into the Treasury, until the amount outstanding shall have been reduced to two hundred millions of dollars.

SEC. 3. Upon a declaration of peace between the Confederate States and the United States of America, the tithe received by the government of the annual crops or produce of cotton, (other than Sea Island cotton,) wheat and corn, in the ratio of four-ninths of cotton, four ninths of corn, and one-ninth of wheat, shall be applied to the redemption of the treasury notes in circulation, until the whole shall have been redeemed; the tithe of cotton being valued at fifty cents a pound; of corn at two dollars a bushel, and of wheat at four dollars a bushel, and being deliverable by the government at one or more shipping ports in each of the Confederate States, to be selected by the Secretary of the Treasury: Provided, however, That the tithes aforesaid, or any part thereof, may, by consent of the parties entitled to receive the same, be delivered elsewhere than at a shipping port: Provided, further, That the cotton to be delivered under the authority of this act, shall be equal to cotton classed and held as "middling cotton," in the ports where such cotton may be delivered.

SEC. 4. That all acts and parts of acts now in force, providing for the assessment and collection of the tax in kind of cotton, corn and wheat, be and the same are hereby re-enacted, and shall continue in force until all the certificates herein authorized to be issued shall have been redeemed in full; and the persons paying taxes in kind under this act, from and after a ratification of a treaty of peace, shall receive compensation by credit, or otherwise, for the then market value of any cotton, corn and wheat, delivered after the termination of the war, so as to equalize their taxes with other tax payers, the market value in the mode prescribed by law.

SEC. 5. The holders of treasury notes desiring to receive the tithes aforesaid, in payment thereof, shall convert the same into treasury certificates, bearing an interest of six per cent per annum, which shall be issued by the Secretary of the Treasury in exchange for said notes and shall express on their face the object for which they are intended; the holders of which said certificates shall be entitled to receive payment therefor in the tithes aforesaid, at the rate of one-fifth of the amount annually: Provided, however, That more than one fifth of the amount of tithe due upon any such certificate, or the whole of such amount may be paid in any year, at the election of the Secretary of the Treasury.

SEC. 6. All planters or farmers liable to the tax in kind shall, after the war, be permitted to satisfy the same, by payment of such certificates as aforesaid.

SEC. 7. Certificates issued under the authority of this act shall be in the following proportions, to wit: four ninths in a separate certificate, payable in cotton, four ninths payable in corn, and one ninth payable in wheat, but no sum less than forty-five dollars, or a multiple, shall be converted into Treasury certificates, when the sum is under one hundred dollars; but the amount to be made payable on the face of each certificate, when the sum converted into Treasury certificates is more than one hundred dollars, shall be such as the Secretary of the Treasury shall judge to be most suitable and convenient for the purposes of this act, which said certificates shall be assignable in writing in such form and with such authentication as the Secretary of Treasury may prescribe.

SEC. 8. The public faith is hereby pledged to the immutable observance of the provisions herein above contained, as to the collection of the tax on wheat, corn and cotton in kind, and the application thereof as aforesaid, until the redemption of the certificates hereby authorized to be issued; Provided, That Congress may, at its discretion, from time to time, make such modification as to the mode of assessment and agency for the collection of said tax as experience may suggest.

SEC. 9. This act shall be in force from the passage thereof.

Forrest at his Old Tricks.

Forrest's cavalry, on the 25th ult., says a private letter in the Mobile *Register*, pitched into the Yankee cavalry, north of the Tennessee, whipping them badly, capturing some artillery, several stands of colors and some prisoners, (between 1200 and 1700,) and driving them back to within 17 miles of Nashville.

The letter, dated the 28th, said Forrest's cavalry and a division of infantry were north of the Mississippi.

Brandy by the Plug.

During the cold snap of the last two or three days we learn that some of our retailers have been selling "new dip" by the plug, or else it is said to sell higher in this solid condition than it did in a liquid state—an *extra* having been put on to compensate for broken hoops, the loss of staves, &c. Moreover, purchasers are said to prefer it in chunks, as they can then nibble at it as suits them, instead of being compelled to gulp it all down at once.—*Raleigh Progress.*

Day of Fasting and Prayer.

The following proclamation has been issued by his Excellency the President of the Confederate States:

Congress of the Confederate States has, by joint resolution, invited me to appoint a day of public fasting, humiliation and prayer, with thanksgiving to Almighty God.

It is our solemn duty, at all times, and more especially in a season of public trial and adversity, to acknowledge our dependence on His mercy, and to bow in humble submission before His footstool, confessing our manifold sins, supplicating his gracious pardon, imploring His Divine help, and devoutly rendering thanks for the many and great blessings which He has vouchsafed to us.

Let the hearts of our people turn confidently and trustfully unto God; let us recognize in His chastening hand the correction of a Father, and submissively pray that the trials and sufferings which have so long borne heavily upon us may be turned away by His merciful love; that His sustaining grace be given to our people, and His divine wisdom imparted to our rulers; that the Lord of Hosts will be with our armies and fight for us against our enemies; and that he will graciously take our cause into His own hand and mercifully establish for us a lasting, just and honorable peace and independence.

And let us not forget to render unto His holy name the thanks and praise which are so justly due for his great goodness, and for the many mercies which he has extended to us amid the trials and sufferings of protracted and bloody war.

Now, therefore, I, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, do issue this my proclamation, appointing Friday, the 10th day of March next, as a day of public fasting, humiliation and prayer, (with thanksgiving) for "invoking the favor and guidance of Almighty God;" and I do earnestly invite all soldiers and citizens to observe the same in a spirit of reverence, penitence and prayer.

L. S. Given under my hand and the seal of the Confederate States, at Richmond, this 25th day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty five. JEFFERSON DAVIS.

By the President:
J. P. BENJAMIN, Secretary of State.

The Task Before Us.

We have now really reached the critical period of the war, says the *South Carolinian*. The point to be decided is simply this: can the Yankees conquer us with the force which they have at present in the field, swelled only by the addition of such negroes as they may hereafter steal from the South, or buy and draft at the North, or will their Government be compelled to resort to an indiscriminate conscription of the population of the North? This is the question in a nut shell. The revelations of Mr. Pollard put it beyond all doubt that if ever we force Lincoln to adopt that obnoxious measure which sends men to the field without respect to their wishes or their wealth, he will find the Yankee nation prepared to acknowledge, and probably to better to abandon the contest than prosecute it at such a cost. It is clear, therefore, that the work before us is by no means so hard as we have been lately inclined to suppose; and that in order to put an end to the war, it is not necessary to expel the Yankee armies from our soil, nor even to beat them thoroughly in the field, but only to make the subjugation of the South so difficult as to demonstrate to the people of the North, that without the measure in question, they might as well relinquish the enterprise. To do this is, beyond peradventure, within our power. A little endurance and resolution, and the thing is achieved. If within the next six months the enemy see no sign of failing spirit and relaxing energies upon our part, he will most assuredly come to the conclusion which it is so desirable he should reach. Could any other development of this strife have resulted in placing before us an easier task?—We shall indeed deserve to be slaves forever, if we do not accomplish it before the grass of another summer shall deck the thousand battle grounds of the land.

The Root of the Evil.

It is stated that there are one hundred thousand absentees from the armies of the Confederate States. In this department, we are credibly informed, says the Charleston *Mercury*, there is a single corps of twenty seven thousand on the rolls, which does not turn out seven thousand effective men. These facts support the statement of President Davis, made in his Macon speech upon his return from his recent visit to the [illegible] Army of the West, after his removal of Gen Johnston, the bloody repulse of Hood, and the fall of Atlanta. Who will say that the men are not in the ranks and at the front? Will any one say that the people of the Confederate States are not patriotic? History tells us of no struggle for independence in which more general and heroic devotion was ever displayed. Our people have made great exertions in behalf of a great cause. It is the people of these States which over and over have lifted out of the perils ensuing from the incompetent maladministration of the affairs of the country. It is the incorrigible intermeddling, mischievous dictation, malignant prejudices, and petty partizanship, which make such a path apparently endless and useless. It is these things which weigh like a pall on the heart of the country. It is these things which infuse inefficiency everywhere, and inspire selfishness and indifference. It is these things which are destroying us, and which must be eradicated by the action of Congress.—*Columbia Carolinian.*

Forty Hours' Devotion for Peace.

Bishop Bayley, of New Jersey, having obtained authority from Rome, has issued instructions for "Forty Hours' Devotion" in all the churches under his control, and commencing in the various churches until June next. Services will be held in each church for forty hours, the sacrament being exposed from morning till evening on three successive days. The Pope has granted to all the faithful of the diocese all the indulgencies and privileges attached to the service in Rome his service was instituted in 1534 of memory of the forty hours during which the body of Christ reposed in the sepulchre, and has since been celebrated with great solemnity.

From the Western Democrat.

Confederate Money.

It is painful and humiliating to us as a people to notice the great depreciation of our currency. The question very naturally arises why is this so? Is there any proper grounds for its low value?

Is it owing to a want of confidence in the final success of our glorious and just cause? We think not. We may be overrun but cannot be subdued. The people of the Confederate States are now, and ever have been, operated upon by a divine afflatus that our cause is just and must prevail. This sentiment permeates all classes of society, from the highest to the lowest. Great may be our sufferings, but the spirit of such a people will not yield, and the vengeance of Heaven will ere long overtake our enemies and paralize their infernal efforts.

Do the mass of the people of the Confederate States think that our Government will ultimately repudiate its debts? We think not; for they are well aware that our Congress, our best financiers, and the people at large, are opposed to anything of the kind. We can ultimately pay the debt *by taxation*, no matter how large it may become—more especially as the debt will be owing to ourselves. If, therefore, we take it for granted that we will ultimately succeed in gaining our independence, and that the debt will not be repudiated, it is unreasonable and unjust to ourselves to hold our currency at so low an estimate.

The enemy are proving to us every day that it is as good, if not better than any other species of property. By the laws of the United States, if we are subjugated our property is all worthless so far as we are concerned. Our lands are confiscated, our negroes are freed, and we have nothing to hope for from the clemency of a ruthless foe. The whole history of this war indicates that no species of property is of any value in our territory, whilst in the hands of the enemy. They burn our houses and their contents, steal our negroes, horses, cattle and hogs, destroy our provisions, and if we have silver and gold they will have it or our lives. Property often tempts persons to remain at home, hoping to be able to save something, until it is too late, and after all they utterly fail in their purposes. But if this property is Confederate money the owner can make his escape with his family, take it with him to another part of the Confederacy not overrun, where it will pass for its value. It is, therefore, demonstrated that it is as good as any other species of property—even as silver and gold, for the possession of these, as we have shown, often leads unto death. It is not often that the possession of Confederate money leads us into any difficulty, even when captured by the enemy, for they affect to look upon it as worthless, but will not destroy it, for thereby they know that they are aiding our Government.

If the recommendations of Secretary Trenholm should be faithfully carried out, and we should be moderately successful at arms, we look for a great rise in the value of Confederate money before the close of the year. Will not, therefore, the people put a higher estimate [illegible] by a proper appreciation to arrest its downward tendency.

X.

Who is He?

We presume everybody wants to know who is *Francis P. Blair*, the man who has been visiting Richmond with propositions from Washington in regard to peace. He is a Printer and for a number of years was the authorized publisher of the debates and proceedings of the old U. S. Congress. Most people in this country have heard of the firm of "Blair & Rives." Congressional reporters and printers. Francis P. Blair was the leading member of the firm, and he it was who once made the remark that "the printers in his Office had done more to make *great* men than all things else combined."—meaning that the printers had corrected and put in proper shape the speeches of members of Congress; and it must be understood that the material out of which to make "great men" was sometimes very scant, for if the speeches of many public men were printed just as they are delivered or written, the speaker's reputation as a "smart man" would be blasted forever. Mr. Blair is now an old man, his vigorous days having been spent contemporaneously with Jackson Clay, Webster, Calhoun, McDuffie and Gales & Seaton. His public career was about ending when we first began to acquire some knowledge of public affairs.

Although Blair never made any pretentions to statesmanship or figured as "Hon." or "His Excellency," yet he always exercised a powerful influence at Washington, especially with Democratic Administrations in olden times. [illegible] of present movements should [illegible] he has had influence enough with [illegible] Lincoln Administration to induce it to make fair and honorable terms for peace with the Confederate authorities, his name should be handed down to posterity as a public benefactor. The Printers, at least, should unite and erect a monument to his memory.—*Charlotte Democrat*

Yankee Feeling towards England.

The bitter hate of the Yankees towards England is well illustrated by an incident that occurred at Savannah a few days ago, as related by the Charleston correspondent of the Richmond *Dispatch*. He says that 'Mr. Anthony Barclay, formerly British Consul at New York, and now a resident in Savannah, was rudely repulsed by Gen. Sherman, with the remark, that as soon as the rebels were disposed of (which he seemed to think would be done in a few months) the United States would turn their guns against Great Britain. He said the ocean would soon swarm with five hundred Federal cruisers, which would sweep the British flag from the sea; and that after England had been sufficiently reduced and exhausted, he would land upon her shores and pitch his tent in Hide Park."

Charles Talcott, Esq. Superintendent of the Danville railroad, Va., was offered by Senator Gwynn, now Duke of Sonora, fifty thousand dollars a year in gold if he would place his engineering skill at the disposal of the Emperor of Mexico. A passport and the funds for paying the passage of himself and family, accompanied this magnificent offer to Mr Talcott. He declined, on the ground that he was unwilling to desert his country in this time of trial.

The Gallant Louisianians.

Among the States, whose sons have uncomplainingly followed the Confederate banners into many a sanguine conflict, far away from their native soil, none stands out to day more conspicuously upon this picture of the "carnival of death," than bleeding Louisiana.—The valor of her sons has been no more illustrated in the ranks of the Army of Northern Virginia, than their endurance has gained the admiration and love of their fellow soldiers in the ill starred Army of the West.—Pre eminently among the most dashing of our soldiers, the Louisiana cavaliers and gallant zouaves and riflemen have met the enemy in the front rank upon every battle field, while the Washington Artillery has now a name united by every battalion in the service. Of 1,500 once belonging to the command of Gen Lee, now barely 600 remain to tell the story of their battles. This simple statement is more touching than any rhetoric could possibly be. These 600 comprise ten regiments, divided into two brigades. They are commanded by Gen. Zebulan York, an officer who has fought his way from Captain upwards, who has seen 36 sanguinated fields, was thrice severely wounded, the last time losing an eye, and who thus far has proved himself worthy of the honor of being the leader of the bravest, most gallant, and most chivalrous band of men that ever drew a sword in defence of their native land. We are glad to hear that this officer has received authority to recruit his command, and that he has the most flattering prospects of increasing his brigade to five thousand before the spring campaign opens. We trust every Louisianian will rally to that distinguished Louisianian brigade. General York is on a short official visit to Columbia. We wish him welcome and a Major-General's commission.—*South Carolinian*

Why is it that some of the Press are so full of predictions of disaster to the Confederate cause? Why are they continually marking out a campaign for sherman that will result gloriously to the Yankee arms and most disastrously to us? These birds of evil omen are becoming a nuisance. Their dismal hootings are too often heard and they bode no good to our cause. We see nothing to justify the prophetic announcement that Sherman will take Branchville; that he will march unopposed through South Carolina: that he will occupy the city of Raleigh; and that we will soon be at the mercy of the Yankee hordes.

Such predictions as these, and at such a time, when we are engaged in a death struggle for freedom, are not calculated to benefit our cause, and we regret extremely that they should be indulged in by any portion of the Press of the Confederacy. It is a gratifying fact, however, that but few of them are engaged in this effort to discourage our people. As a general thing, the journals of the country are buoyant and hopeful. They cheer the armies and the people with the hope that we will soon emerge from the dark sea of troubles that now lashes in fury against us. They beg us not to give up the contest, after four years of carnage and suffering without the priceless boon of independence. They beg us not to surrender our homes—our lands—our all—to a merciless foe, who would rule us with a rod of iron, who would regard us as mere dependants, without rights; without privileges; without any of the immunities of freemen.

We think our people ought to know the Yankee character by this time. They have waged war against us with a remorseless energy that has no equal. They have plundered our homes; stolen our slaves, desolated the fairest portions of our land; outraged our women; made orphans of our children; and done all to oppress us that their devilish ingenuity could devise. Shall we then go back to them and acknowledge that we were wrong; that we have been warring against their *glorious* old flag and their *Republican* Constitution without a cause? Are we prepared to say that the tens of thousands of noble men, whose blood has crimsoned the soil of their native land, have fallen in an unholy crusade against the "best government the world ever saw?"

If we are unprepared for this, why encourage the belief in the Northern mind that we are well nigh conquered? Why, at a time when the mighty fabric of Yankee existence is itself tottering and almost ready to fall beneath the heroic valor and patient endurance of our people—why, we say, at such a time as this, is not every man found ready and willing to foster and encourage the well grounded belief that the end is approaching; that we cannot be subdued, and that our brave armies are yet invincible, and that encouragement that, in our brighter days, was given them by every newspaper in the Confederacy. Alas! that, at this critical juncture, any should be found unequal to the task.—*Fayetteville Telegraph.*

Ran Against a Snag.

The Yankees, in cavorting up and down the Valley, occasionally run against a snag. They caught a Tartar last Sunday morning. One that morning 50 of them, led by the notorious "Jessie scout," Reily, a deserter from Gilmer's Battalion, came up as high as Edenburg, in Shenandoah, thinking the principal towns between Winchester and Edenburg. They surprised our picket post just below Edenburg, about daylight, capturing 14 of them. Our reserves, getting their blood up immediately rallied and pursued them to Wood-stock, where we recaptured our pickets and took 16 Yankees, (among them Riley, the "Jessie scout,") with their arms, &c., 20 horses, and ran the balance of the Yankees to Strasburg. One of our pickets, who had been captured, after his release by our men, himself captured two Yankees. Capt. Grandstaff and Lt. Mohler, who commanded our pickets near Edenburg, acquitted themselves with great credit on the occasion. Mohler taking them in front and Grandstaff assailing them in the rear.—*Harrisonburg Register*, 27

The number of exempts this side of the Mississippi river, (according to the statement of Mr. Miles,) under the different clauses of the present law, are as follows:—Physical disability, 61,167; State officers exempted by Governors, 18,785; ministers, 3,086; insane asylum managers and nurses, 149; editors and employees of newspapers, 686; apothecaries, 399; physicians, 3,718; teachers and professors, 1,567; under the fifteen negro clause, 3,645; Quakers, Dunkards, &c., 893; mail contractors, 479; railroad employees, 4,882.

Iredell Express.

STATESVILLE:

Thursday, February 9th, 1865.

The Peace Commissioners.

On last Tuesday, Vice-President Stephens, Judge Campbell and Hon. R. M. T. Hunter, the commissioners appointed by President Davis to visit Washington and confer with Lincoln on the terms of peace, passed through our lines in front of Petersburg on their way to that city. A general cessation of hostilities was proclaimed along the lines of the two armies, the breastworks and fortifications on either side being crowded with men who, as long as the commissioners and their escort were in sight cheered them with voices which gave but the expression of their hearts. Surely, it must have been thrilling to witness that spectacle from men who had but a few hours before been thirsting for the life-blood of each other, now uniting in wishing a God speed to the humane effort that is to be made to settle the difficulties and stop the sacrifice of lives.

Those three gentlemen chosen, embrace in the trio, statesmanship and abilities of the first order. If possible, with honor to the South, we feel assured, that these men will accomplish what they were sent for; but let us not relax our energies to a final and triumphant prosecution of the war on our part, should these fail.

Branchville and Augusta.

There appears to be no doubt that Sherman is aiming for Branchville and Augusta. Well, let him come; our prediction is, that he will not only fail to get either place, but that he will catch the worst thrashing that any Yankee army has yet received at the hands of the Confederates. Sherman, will not be able to march up the country, and this he will find true. His raiding parties, in all probability, will cut the railroad between Branchville and Augusta—nothing more.

Soldiers' Boxes.

We are requested to give notice that Mr C. D. Murdock, of Co. A, 4th N. C Regiment, will return to his regiment about the 14th February, and will take boxes for any member in Cos. A, C, and H, 4th regiment, if deposited at the depot in this place. Boxes should not be too large and well strapped and marked.

☞ The Kinston correspondent of the *State Journal* informs that paper, that P. J. Sinclair, late editor of the Wilmington *Carolinian*, and W. J. Vestal, sub-editor of the Raleigh *Progress*, have run the blockade at Newbern and gone to the Yankees. The public will not be surprised at this. Indeed we expect that a larger emigration will soon depart from Raleigh for the land of the enemy, headed by Holden.

Miscellaneous Items.

—The bill to authorize the transmission of newspapers free of postage to soldiers has become a law. We are glad of this, for the so frequent changes in the post-offices of the various commands entailed too much expense on our poorly paid soldiers. We will publish this law as soon as we can procure a copy of it.

—The Wilmington *Journal* is informed, that if it becomes necessary to evacuate that town, it is the intention of the Commanding General to exercise the authority vested in him by act of Congress and destroy the cotton remaining there. Instructions have been given already to facilitate the removal of that in private hands.

—A letter from Gen. Early's army announces that Maj. Gen. Gordon has been placed in command of the 2d corps, lately commanded by Lieut. Gen. Early. He issued an address to the troops upon taking command.

—The Lynchburg *Republican* understands that Mr J. A. Sperry, editor of the *Register*, who was captured by the enemy in their late raid into Southwestern Virginia, has been turned over by the military to the civil authorities at Knoxville, to be tried for treason. In what his treason consists we have not been advised. This is doubtless some of the arch devil Brownlow's work.

—The number of shells thrown into Charleston from the commencement of the bombardment to the 1st of January, 1865, was 12,262.

—The San Jose *Mercury* says the wife of Jose Castro, of Monterey, has given birth to 36 children, all of whom are living together in that country.

Written for the Iredell Express.

Life in the Trenches near Petersburg.

I always had a very great curiosity to see the trenches at Petersburg.—I had heard so much said concerning them—such extravagance, almost impossible accounts, and incredible stories, that I was determined to see for myself, and accordingly, on the 3d inst., set out with that object in view. After crossing "Pocahontas Bridge", on the Northern suburbs of the city, I turned directly to the left on the City Point railroad, down which I walked about three quarters of a mile, and after crossing a fine iron bridge, struck the "covered way" as it is called here, which means simply a ditch sufficiently deep to protect persons from the enemy's shots. From the western terminus of this ditch to the trenches proper the distance is something near three fourths of a mile,—it is from three to eight feet wide, and, the banks included, from seven to nine feet deep,—there is no "covering," at all. This constitutes the chief thoroughfare through which the men belonging to Ransom's brigade go to and from the city. On nearing the lines I discovered many similar ditches intersecting the main one and thence running in every conceivable direction. It is no wonder I got lost;—a man might as well attempt to explore the Mammoth Cave alone and without light,—but by the most indefatigable exertions, and by making all possible inquiries of every one I met, I at last found the head quarters of the 49th N. C. Reg't,—and thence, in company with a competent guide (Lt. Jas. Sherrill,) I continued my observations and *explorations* with a greater degree of satisfaction. The men I found all burrowed in the earth like so many ground rats,—from four to six in a hole, which is called a "bomb-proof"; because, in the first place, it is sunken several feet beneath the surface, and in the second place it is covered with logs and earth varying from six to ten feet in thickness. Still, these "Bomb-proofs" are not altogether a safe retreat;—it is no very uncommon thing for heavy mortar shells to penetrate to the interior,—an accident which never fails to cause a *general getting out*, you may well imagine. The fact is, the men have discovered recently that they are safer in the trenches than in their holes during a shelling spree, which occurs perhaps once in twenty-four hours, sometimes in daylight, sometimes at night, and lasts one or two hours at a time. There is always a look out kept, and warning given when there is any danger; and the men have become as expert at dodging in the trenches and around the "traverses" that it is seldom any one is hurt. In daylight the shells may be seen distinctly from the time they leave the enemy's mortars until they explode inside our works, and at night their fiery tails, comet like, indicate their course. The range is entirely too short to admit of the use of artillery, consequently nothing but mortars are used; and, like everything else, they are so far beneath the surface, in a kind of pit, as to be entirely out of sight,—no one could know where they are were it not for the cloud of white smoke produced by a discharge, which always betrays their exact locality. Before leaving that part of the subject, however, I should state that the holes in which the men live are small, and so low that a boy ten years old could scarcely stand erect;—they are dark and damp and in many instances smoked thoroughly black by the little handful of stone coal and old field pine, their only hope of fuel. It is really surprising that such universal good health prevails;—I did not see a single sick man, notwithstanding their exceedingly disagreeable mode of life. One of the greatest inconveniences to which they are subject is the horrible mud when it rains, or during a thaw. A ditch leads from every domicil to others, and also to the main trench, the bottom of which, in wet weather, is filled with mud six inches deep,—yet no man dare attempt to shun it by going over a bank; so sure as he risks it he is shot at,—in this way many have been killed by unnecessarily exposing themselves. Really the lines of the two armies are not more than two hundred yards apart at farthest, and in some places the distance is not half so great. The pickets, of course, are much nearer, scarcely fifty yards separate them, yet, there they have lain for the last three or four months, and how much longer they may remain we cannot tell. The Yankees live like our men, beneath the surface of the earth—it is rare that one shows his head above the breast works. You might stand on a mound in the centre of that *wreck of earth* (for such it is in reality) and imagine that no living soul dwelt within five miles of you, while in truth the very earth beneath and around you is full *of living soldiers* numbered by hundreds and thousands!

I might say a great deal with reference to the defences, but it might be imprudent—I will only add that so far as I am able to judge I believe them to be impregnable. The men I found cheerful and lively, more go than I could be under the circumstances, unless, like them, I had served a six months' apprenticeship, and then, besides, had the unlimited quantities of good things from home in which they are luxuriating. I confess to a feeling of squeamishness once or twice when a pondrous mortar shell would light near enough to give one the fiend ache; and, once I was chilled slightly when Capt. H. A. Chambers and I mounted a small bank to take just one peep at the "Pots"—I was really fidgetty, and actually could not suppress a desire to see what was going on over there,—it may have been a weakness bordering, perhaps, on a peculiar feminine trait, but so it was.—We ventured our heads up barely a second, and the moment after we stepped back in the ditch a minnie cut the dirt immidiately above.—Well, it is hardly necessary for me to state that I didn't suffer my curiosity to get the better of prudence a second time.

In the 49th N. C. I met many old friends and associates, among whom I may mention Wm. Morrison, Thos. Watts, Jos. Bread, Capt. Jno. Crawford, Lt. Clayt Sharpe, J. L. Woodside, Lt. Bailey, Capt. Conner, and many others, all of whom are doing amazingly well when the situation is considered. Fortunately, on the day I spent in the trenches the ground was frozen and towards evening snow fell, through which I felt my way to camp where I landed safely at 9 P. M., thankful that the time is not yet come when it may be necessary for me to make my home under the ground.

NAT.

☞ Mr. C. D. Murdock, will accept of thanks for a copy of the New York Herald of the 18th January, which we have perused with much interes, also the Richmond Enquirer, of Feb. 2d.

Projected Raid.

"Bird," a correspondent of the Richmond *Whig*, in a recent letter to this paper from Bristol, Tenn., says:

"It is thought by many that the enemy's entire force of cavalry and infantry will advance so soon as the weather becomes good. In the event of Gen. Hood falling back into Alabama, it is more than probable that such a move will be made. Intelligent citizens, direct from Knoxville, report that it is rumored in private circles in the city, that another formidable raid is being prepared for into North Carolina. Salisbury is the destination. This is more than probable. The departmental commanders along the North Carolina borders should be on the alert. The enemy are bold and defiant, since their recent success, and flatter themselves that they can accomplish anything that they may desire. The strictest vigilance should be given to the defence of the North Carolina frontier and the safety of the Salisbury prisoners."

"A majority of the press of North Carolina is clammoring for a Convention.—*Augusta Chronicle & Sentinel.*

The foregoing is simply false. The press of North Carolina consists of some thirty newspapers, and of that number but *two* "clamor for a State Convention," and not more than two others, we think, favor the vile scheme.

"Some of them (the *Virginia* newspapers) have commenced talking of peace matters quite plainly and advocate a State Convention to settle difficulties honorably if possible."—*Ibid.*

There is no truth in the latter paragraph. *No* Virginia paper that we have seen favors the calling of a State Convention.

We have long been struck with the *indecency* of the editor of the *Chronicle & Sentinel*, towards the Southern Confederacy. We understand the editor to be a raw Connecticut Yankee, and his course now savors something ranker than indecency. No Southern man at the North *dare* manifest such a state of feeling towards the Lincoln Government as this Yankee manifests towards the Government and cause of the South. The time we trust is not distant when the *Chronicle & Sentinel* will see cause to moderate its tone.—*State Journal.*

The Scheme of Finance.

The scheme of finance now determined upon and likely to be carried into effect, says a Richmond paper, may be comprehensively stated thus: The cotton and tobacco of the country, having been made the property of the Government, the Secretary of the Treasury will proceed, under the authority of Congress, to borrow specie, giving cotton and tobacco as security. This specie will be speedily applied to the redemption of a large portion of the Confederate notes now afloat at a moderate discount. No more notes to be issued by the department; but the incoming currency to be used for Government expenditures or cancelled. The cotton and tobacco seized will be paid for in Confederate money at the market rates (gold being the basis,) at the rate of discount fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury in the redemption of the currency. An effort will be made to reduce the volume of the currency to a certain amount, and, if possible, to prevent its increase.

A correspondent of the *Rebel* states, on the authority of Mr. Trenholm, that the aggregate debt of the Confederate government, including its bonds and notes is, in round numbers, one billion and a half; or at the ratio of twenty for one, $75,000,000 in gold. The bonds are interest bearing property, and are safe investments so long as the Government can pay the interest on them. Seventy-five millions of dollars in gold, therefore, has been the entire expenditure of the Government since its inauguration. But few of the people are aware of the fact, that in four years of independence and expensive war, the Southern States have expended only about one-third more on themselves, than they previously annually paid into the United States Treasury. Such is the conclusions figures, which never deceive. Were it not for the price of blood we have paid, it would be almost as cheap to fight the Yankees as to fraternize with them.

Death of Samuel W. James.

With more than ordinary feelings of pain and sorrow, we announce the death of Mr. James, once our partner in business, and for many years an intimate associate as one of the employees in this office. He died of pneumonia, at his residence near town, yesterday about 2 o'clock, after an illness of six days. Aged 46 years in December last.—*Salisbury Watchman, 3d.*

A letter from Nashville says that Nashville will no longer be used as a military and provision post, that Florence, Alabama, will be held in future, as a post for supplies, and base to operate upon Montgomery and Selma. This letter says that while Sherman will operate in South and North Carolina and Virginia, Thomas will plunge into Alabama, also with a co-operating force capture Mobile.

Sixty thousand dollars in silver bars have been received at San Francisco from Idaho, the first shipment of silver from the new silver mines in Southwestern Idaho, which promise to rival those in Nevada.

The Peace Movement.

We would advise the public not to be too much elated at the prospect of peace. Joyfully as such a consummation would be hailed, were it attained on a fair and honorable basis, there is no certainty that an event fraught with so much of good to mankind generally, is as near at hand as many seem disposed to think. At a late hour last evening, and after the article under our editorial head had been put in type, we heard that the distinguished gentlemen whose names are there given, do not go in the capacity of Peace Commissioners, as the telegram from the Associated Press at Richmond would seem to indicate. They are anxious and ready to meet any overtures on the part of the United States Government, which will bring about an honorable adjustment of our difficulties, but so far from their being *Peace Commissioners* in the full sense of the term, it is at the time of this writing, not positively known that they will be passed through the Federal lines. We think, therefore, that the public should not entertain very sanguine hopes, which may at any moment be converted into disappointment. The movement here referred to may result in bringing peace to a distracted country, but if it should not, let all be prepared for such a result, and resolve that come what may, we will, by the help of God and our own strong arms, conquer a peace.—*Petersburg Express.*

From the Raleigh Confederate.

We have been repeatedly asked, "what will this peace movement amount to?"—While we do not pretend to know what the issue will develop; nor pretend to divine what were the influences which initiated the negotiations which are now going on, we feel no hesitancy in giving it as our opinion, that the Yankees are extremely anxious to bring about a cessation of hostilities between these two Governments, and, that their anxiety is the result of some outside pressure. From the best information before the country, it is believed that affairs, between the United States and two of the European powers, are becoming daily more and more complicated, while the reasons, which have hitherto prevented those powers from recognizing the independence of the Confederate States, are gradually being dissipated by each transpiring event.

It can no longer be denied, that the United States is treasuring up a mountain of wrath against both England and France; nor will it be questioned, that it is the purpose of the Lincoln Government, so soon as the present war shall have closed, to re announce, and, with force of arms, maintain the Monroe doctrine upon this continent. These things are evident to us, and of course, they are as readily seen and as fully appreciated in Europe. While we have never been sanguine in the opinion, that foreign powers would make haste to interfere in this struggle; still, we have never doubted, that, when the proper hour, in their estimation, arrived, there would be interference, on the part of England and France, to prevent a reconstruction of the old Union. Whether that time has arrived or not, we shall not pretend to say; but, we repeat, what we said in the outset, that the present anxiety of the Yankees to bring about a cessation of hostilities, is evidently the result of some outside pressure, and we are inclined to the belief, that that pressure comes from Europe, in the shape of recognition, at no very distant day. In the meantime, we caution our patriotic people against that cowardly submission which would yield up all for which our armies have been fighting, just at the moment the day begins to dawn.

The Valley Campaign.

From one of our Surgeons who remained in Winchester, in charge of our wounded, during the campaign, from the 19th of September, the Lynchburg *Virginian* has some interesting facts relative to our losses. This gentlemen states that we left in the hands of the enemy, in the fight of the 19th of September, about 400 wounded, and that there were in Winchester previous to the fight 260 sick and wounded. Our informant further states that the entire number of sick and wounded captured by the enemy, was 864. This includes all the fights in the Valley, from the 19th of September to the close of the campaign.—These losses are certainly very far undr the estimate we had heretofore had, but that they are correct we have every confidence, as our informant had every facility for obtaining accurate information.

The gentleman tells us that the enemy claimed to have 45,000 infantry and 12,000 cavalry.

The Yankee Surgeons at Winchester told our informant that they buried, after the fight at Winchester, on the 19th, six of their own men to one of ours, and that the hospitals in the town contained 6,000 of their wounded, from that fight alone.

The exhibit of the losses of the two armies evidences the skill and gallantry with which our officers and men fought, and though they were unfortunate in not securing the fruits of their oft repeated victories, yet none will deny that they deserve well of their country, when they remember the overpowering odds against which they had to contend.

Material for the Defence of Georgia.

The Augusta *Chronicle and Sentinel* says that while General Bragg was in that city, a little incident occurred which shows that Gen. B. is not the "dry old stick" he has the credit of being.

President Davis had telegraphed to Gen. Beauregard in his usual way, to hold the State at all hazards—stop up the roads, destroy supplies and crush Sherman. At the close of the dispatch the strange phenomena of an idea seemed to strike him and he asked:—"What is your available force for this purpose?"

To which Gen. Bragg promptly replied:—"Five Proclamations and one Brigade."

Our informant did not see the point, and asked Gen. Bragg to explain.

"Why," said he, "Gov. Brown issued a proclamation, that was one; Gen. A. W. Wright's made two; the President's made three; Senator B. H. Hill's made four, and that from the eight members of Congress made five. I shall consider Sherman a hard case if I can't 'crush' him with five proclamations and one brigade."

—The Philadelphia *Inquirer* of the 21st, learns that advices from Nassau, N. P., state that the Confederates there have purchased Andros Island, about 60 miles west of New Providence, and are about to establish there an arsenal and naval depot, and also open Courts of Admiralty for the sale and adjudication of prizes captured by their sea rovers. The Confederates paid, or are to pay, eight millions of dollars in cotton for the Island. Their principal port will be Ascension, situated on a fine harbor on the eastern side of Andros Island, directly opposite Nassau.

Congressional.

RICHMOND, Feb. 1.—The Senate passed the Senate bill to abolish the offices of Quartermasters and Commissary on duty at posts and departments, and to provide for the appointment of bonded agents in their places. The Act also repealing all authority to detail persons between the ages of 18 and 45 in said departments and then went into secret session.

In the House Mr. Gholson submitted the following: The people of the Confederate States have ever been and are now ready to make peace upon terms honorable to both parties, yet it is the judgment of the House that while we should manifest the willingness to treat for peace, we should not omit to vigorously prepare for war.

That in the judgment of the House the preparation can best be made by using every effort to place at once in the army every man liable under our laws to render military service, and by causing the Quartermaster, Commissary and other departments to be administered with renewed energy, and since Gen. Lee has been made General-in-Chief, to assign to him our best and most acceptable Generals to command our separate armies, and by ceasing to agitate the policy of employing negro troops—a measure which has already divided public sentiment and has produced much despondency.

Mr. Gholson spoke at considerable length in support of his resolution. He incidentally paid a tribute to the efficiency of the Press which he thought has accomplished more in aid of our struggle than a hundred folds its number of employees could have done if armed and placed in the field.

Mr. Gholson occupied the morning hour, at the expiration of which the Currency Bill was referred to the Committee of Conference. The House resolved into secret session.

RICHMOND, Feb. 2.—The House passed the Senate bills increasing the compensation and emoluments of the President and increasing the salaries of officers and employees of the Government in Richmond. Also adopted resolutions expressing the gratification of Congress of additional evidence of the patriotist of the various commands which have declared their purpose to maintain the war for independence.

The Senate was chiefly occupied to day in the discussion of the House amendments to the bill to provide for the employment of free negroes and slaves to work on fortifications. Pending which the Senate resolved into secret session.

Northern News.

RICHMOND, Feb. 2.—The New York *Herald* of the 30th received. Not a word about the appointment of peace commissioners by Lincoln, but over a column about Blair's second visit to Richmond, in the shape of a Washington correspondent, who asserts that Blair's mission is not a failure, and predicts that the commissioners from Richmond will soon be *en route* to Washington. Great sensation was produced in New York Sunday by reports of the fall of Charleston, and arrangements between Lincoln and Davis for the immediate attainment of peace.

The *Herald* says a St. Louis correspondent gravely announces Kirby Smith as negotiating with Maximilian for the transportation of his forces to Mexico.

The blockade runner Blendheim from Nassau, was recently captured on the Cape Fear.

Butler had a grand reception at Lowell on Saturday. In his speech he said it was idle to talk of peace until the rebel army of Northern Virginia was defeated or captured.

Seward made a speech before the Christian commission in Washington on Sunday night, in which he said, we wait only at the hands of the rebels for submission, which delayed, however, necessarily follows military defeat and overthrow.

Several destructive fires in different States are recorded in the *Herald*.

Gold advanced to 220 on Saturday, and closed at 221.

From Sherman's Army.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 2.—A dispatch from Braxton's brigade 7 o'clock, last night, says the enemy advanced to-day across Whippy Swamp, driving in our cavalry on our left six miles from this place, supposed to be in heavy force. There is a column of cavalry on the Augusta road moving rapidly for some unknown point.

A later dispatch dated 6, p. m., yesterday, says the enemy had possession of McBride's bridge and skirmishing was going on at that point with Braxton's brigade. The enemy is certainly moving on Branchville.

A dispatch from Adams' Run, says the enemy came up on two barges to Young's Island yesterday about noon and drove in our pickets. They fired several buildings and plantations, and retired. This morning three steamers are off White River Point, and landing is threatened.

The Army of the West.

Late and reliable information from Tennessee is to the effect that a large portion of the men who straggled from Hood's army, during his late retreat, are making their way out of Tennessee in large numbers. An officer of high rank, who came out of Tennessee since Hood's army crossed the river, assures us that on all sides of his line of march, he could hear of stragglers who were preparing clothing, shoes, etc, for the winter campaign, and that but few, if any of them, who had ever belonged to the army, had any idea of remaining in the Yankee lines. Fifty joined him on his way out, and all along the road he could hear of numbers who were about to move towards the army.

The French and the Yankees.

It will be seen that the Yankee Senate has directly ignored the *Empire* of Mexico and the Emperor Maximilian, by sending Consuls to the *Republic* of Mexico. This will tell Napoleon very plainly what he may expect as soon as the Yankees are released from their present war—that they will at once attempt to enforce the Monroe doctrine by driving Maximilian out of Mexico. Besides this, certain Yankee sea-captains have taken letters of marque from Juarez, the ex-Governor of Mexico, to fit out privateers to prey upon French commerce. These signs indicate a French and Yankee war. And the Canadian situation as strongly indicates an English and Yankee war.—*Fayetteville Observer.*

Secretary of War.

The Richmond *Sentinel* says, that Major-General John C. Breckinridge has been appointed Secretary of War. It is understood that he will retain his commission of Major-General. The distinguished service and great ability of Gen. Breckinridge will render his appointment satisfactory to the people and to the army.

We understand the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Campbell, will not be filled until the new Secretary enters upon the discharge of the duties of his office.

Our Worst Enemies.

These are the cranks, the speculators, the gold sellers, such as the *Appeal*, who seek the depreciation of our currency. Their industry in circulating [illegible] so fully appalled by their zeal in manufacturing them, in many instances "out of whole cloth." They are the greatest curse we have, although few in number, and really do more to break down the spirits of our people than all the victories the public enemy from time to time secure.

The people, however, should by this time be aware of the true character and purposes of those referred to, and pass them by unheeded. Or if any attention is paid them, let it be to denounce as soon as detected. No good citizen should be deterred by them from the performance of duty, or seek to find an excuse for personal inaction. People to establish and preserve freedom, must show themselves firm under all circumstances, worthy of freedom, and not rely upon either the success of this or that isolated army.

A Dutch Adventure.

Belonging to the 5th Alabama Infantry was a Dutchman rejoicing the beautiful name of Jacob Schwartz. Schwartz was particularly fond of "hen fruit," and never failed to lay in a supply when an opportunity offered. On one occasion he had secreted a dozen beneath the floor of his tent. Early in the morning he hastened to his treasure, but instead of eggs found a pole-cat snugly ensconced. What next happened we will give you in Schwartz's own words: Von tam plag wite striped spotted puppy dog come got under my tent, got mit my egg, and by golly, when I ries to trove him away, he fling around mit me—phew! Stink heap like ter devil—*forty men could schmell him a minute*

From the Paris *Patrie* the following item of news is derived:

A United States dispatch boat has been desirous to put into the port of Bahia, where there was a mercantile vessel, bearing the Confederate flag, flying. The President of the province refused his assent, declaring that he did not wish to see a recurrence of an incident similar to that of the Florida.—The United States vessel, after remaining five hours in the entrance of All Saints Bay, put to sea again. The affair had no serious consequences, and it remains to be seen what the commander of the United States vessel will do.

MARRIED.

In Iredell county, on the 2d of February, at the bride's uncle, by Rev. J. M. Smith, Sergt. SAM. T. ARRANTHY, Co. B, Jeff. Davis' Legion, to Miss. SALLIE V. LEWIS. W. B. L.

New Advertisements.

CORN! CORN!!

WANTED, (5000) Five Thousand bushels of CORN for the use of the families of indigent soldiers who have gone from Iredell county in the defence of their country. I will pay $20 per bushel for corn delivered to me in Statesville. Or if you prefer delivering the corn to the families of soldiers in your immediate neighborhood, you can do so by contracting with us to accept my orders when presented by the parties entitled to draw corn.

G. H. WHITE, *County Commissioner.*

5dt

N. B.—I will attend at Olin Saturday the 11th February next for the purpose of delivering corn to the families of soldiers. All North of the River are requested to attend on that day and receive the amount due them. They are requested to pay on delivery. W. H. WHITE, Com.

Cotton Yarn and Sheeting to Exchange.

THE subscriber has [illegible] I will exchange for Corn, Wheat, Flour, Bacon, Lard, Butter, Tallow and Beeswax.

L. F. WAY.

Statesville, Feb. 6, 1865.—5:3t-pd

FOR SALE.

A GOOD SECOND HAND FOUR HORSE WAGON for sale. Apply to C. A. CARLTON.

Jan. 23, '65.—4:tf-pd

House Servant to Hire.

A FIRST rate *HOUSE SERVANT, COOK, WASHER AND IRONER*, to hire, Cheap.

R. F. SIMONTON, *Guardian.*

Jan. 27, 1865.—2w

TAX NOTICE.

DELINQUENT Tax-payers for the year 1864, will meet me at the following times and places, to pay all Taxes due by them, and if they neglect or refuse to do so, I will add 10 per cent. on all such Taxes as the law requires:—Olin, Wednesday and Thursday, January 25th, 26th; Eagle Mills, Friday and Saturday, 27th 28th; Mt. Bethel, Monday, 30th; Eccles' Store, Tuesday, 31st; Alvin Summers', Thursday, February 2nd; Liberty Hill, Friday, 3rd; Center Depot, Tuesday, 14th; Monge's Turnout, Wednesday, 15th; Shepard's X Roads, Thursday, 16th; Troutman's, Friday, 17th; Statesville, 20th, 21st 22nd, 23rd and 24th. At the same times and places I will collect the Tithe accounts due for 1863, and producers that have the Tithe Agents' receipts for tithes delivered will produce them, and I will give them credit on their accounts for the same; and those who have no receipts will come prepared to pay them in money or 4 per cent. certificates, or pay additional cost. All Specific taxes, tax on sales, income and profits was due on the 1st of January, and one of the Assessors will attend and take all returns due. All dealers in liquors, goods, wares, merchandize, millers, butchers, tanners, physicians, lawyers, hotel keepers, &c., &c., will attend and pay their specific taxes for 1865, and tax on sales for the quarter ending 31st December, 1864.

It will be to the interest of all concerned to attend promptly, as this will be the last round I will take for the taxes of 1864, without additional cost.

O. G. FOARD, *Tax Collector.*

OLIN, January 18th, 1865.

Additional Tax Notice.

THE Secretary of the Treasury has consented to allow those who failed to deliver their tithes of 1863, to deliver the same out of the crops of 1864, when the tax collectors decide that the failure to deliver, was by reason of "a necessary and unavoidable default." Those, therefore, who did not deliver in 1863, will find it to their advantage to see me immediately, and let me know the reasons of their failure. Persons concerned, can meet me at the several appointments heretofore made. Promptness is necessary, as only 30 days are allowed for the delivery; and those wishing to deliver must signify the same to me, so that I can endorse the fact on their estimates, and send the same to Capt. J. A. Marsh at Statesville. Those who have delivered said tithes of 1863, must show me their receipts, or they will be proceded against as though they had not delivered.

O. G. FOARD, *Collector.*

January 18th, 1865.—4:4t

OLIN HIGH SCHOOL,

IREDELL Co., N. C.

THE next Session will begin on Monday the 23nd of January 1865, and continue twenty weeks. Tuition per Session as follows:—For beginners, $10. For Spelling, Reading and Writing, $12. For Grammar, Geography and Arithmetic, $15. For Higher English, Latin and Greek, $20.

The above to be paid in produce at the following rates:—Corn $1 per bushel; Wheat $1.50; Bacon or Lard 16 cts. per pound. Other articles in the same proportion.

Board, $7 to $8 per month, to be paid in produce at old prices. Those who cannot pay in provisions, can pay in specie or the equivalent in currency. Grain, &c., brought by Rail Road to be delivered in Statesville. Those living in the neighborhood, will deliver their supplies in Olin.

S. MILTON FROST.

3:6t

APPREHENDED!

HENRY, a stout built negro, light black complexion, aged about 25 years, and about 5 feet 6 inches high; says he belongs to a Mr. John Moore of Knoxville, Tenn. The said negro weighs about 145 pounds. He was apprehended in Iredell county, and is now confined in the Jail at this place.

The owner will please come forward, prove property and pay charges, or the boy will be dealt with as the law directs.

JAS. H. McLAUGHLIN, *Sheriff.*

Statesville, Jan. 2, '65.—3:6t.

Book and Job Printing

Executed with neatness and dispatch.